

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 02278 211127Z

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ACTION OS-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-07 CU-04 (ISO) W

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R 210806Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3118

UNCLAS DACCA 2278

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCH, BG

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES

1. UNDERSTAND FROM DR. PARSONS OF A/OS THAT POSSIBILITY
EXISTS FOR OBTAINING GRANT FUNDS TO FINANCE CONSTRUCTION AT
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL/DACCA (AIS/D).

2. EMBASSY AND AIS/D BOARD MOST GRATEFUL THAT DACCA SCHOOL
BEING CONSIDERED AS RECIPIENT GRANT FUNDS. SCHOOL, WHICH
STARTED OUT IN 1972 WITH 31 STUDENTS, NOW HAS MORE THAN 131
STUDENTS (OVER HALF AMERICANS) AND PROSPECTS FOR 1974/75
SCHOOL YEAR INDICATE ENROLLMENT OF UP TO 150. PRESENT LEASED
SCHOOL BUILDING, WHICH IS CONVERTED APARTMENT BUILDING,
INADEQUATE TO MEET LIKELY DEMAND, PARTICULARLY IN LOWER LEVELS.
BOARD HAS SOUGHT LANDLORD'S PERMISSION MAKE STRUCTURAL CHANGES
IN SCHOOL BUILDING AND TO ADD CLASSROOMS. BOARD ALSO LOOKING
INTO POSSIBILITY OF BUYING LAND AND DESIGNING AND BUILDING OWN SCHOOL.

TO FINANCE LATTER PROJECT WOULD REQUIRE FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL
INCREASE IN TUITION (25 PERCENT INCREASE ALREADY ENVISAGED FOR
1974/75) AND BORROWING, IF POSSIBLE, FROM LOCAL BANKS, AS WELL
AS FUND-RAISING EFFORTS.

3. CONSTRUCTION GRANT FROM A/OS COULD HELP SUBSTANTIALLY IN
ENCOURAGING SCHOOL TO PLAN FOR BOTH IMMEDIATE CLASSROOM NEEDS
AND LONGER RANGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. SUCH A GRANT IS HEREWITHE
SOUGHT.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DACCA02278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740126-0124
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740531/aaaabbjf.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 OCT 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <29-Oct-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES
TAGS: ASCH, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005